



WHO KNOWS WHAT EVIL LURKS  
IN THE HEARTS OF MEN?

25<sup>c</sup>

NO. 11

JULY

30684

THE

THE SHADOW

HERO FIGHTS HERO  
WHEN  
THE *Shadow*  
MEETS  
the *Avenger!*

APPROVED  
BY THE  
COMICS  
CODE  
AUTHORITY







**SUPERMAN**

# "THE SPY"

PRESS

HERE'S A SECRET SPRING!

HEY! A SECRET CLOSET! LOOK! SUPERMAN'S CLOTHES!

COULD KENT BE SUPERMAN IN DISGUISE?

MY TELESCOPIC VISION TELLS ME SOMEONE'S FOUND MY SPARE COSTUMES!

WAIT TILL THE BOSS SEES THESE SUPERMAN OUTFITS-- CLARK KENT WILL NEVER SCOOP US AGAIN!



LATER...

RIGHT THIS WAY, FOLKS -- NOW JUST LOOK AT WHAT'S IN CLARK KENT'S SECRET CLOSET!

HE'S IN FOR A BIG SURPRISE!



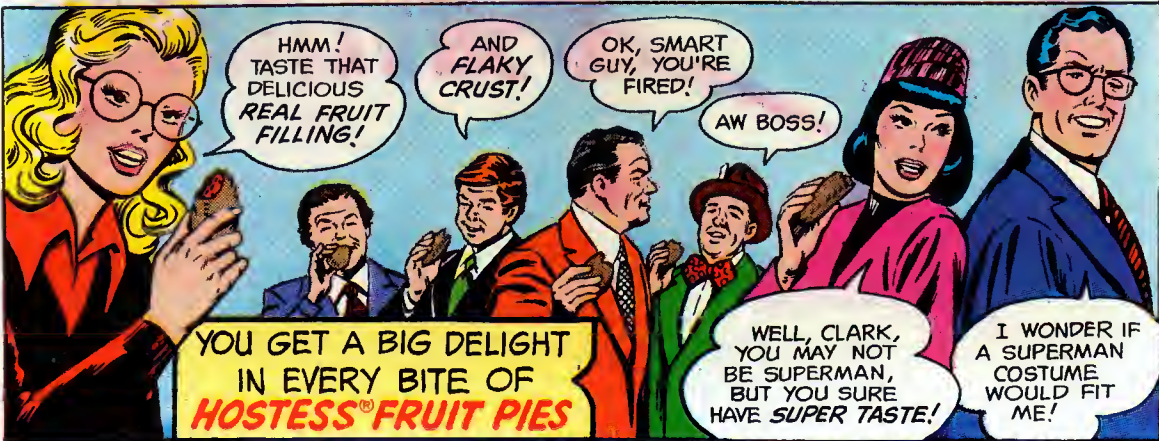
WHAT THE?!?

I'LL TAKE APPLE!

CHERRY FOR ME!

BLUEBERRY HERE!

IT'S FULL OF HOSTESS FRUIT PIES!



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AND FLAKY CRUST!

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AW BOSS!

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WELL, CLARK, YOU MAY NOT BE SUPERMAN, BUT YOU SURE HAVE SUPER TASTE!

I WONDER IF A SUPERMAN COSTUME WOULD FIT ME!



I hereby certify the following pages to be a true record.

THE **Shadow**

**HAHAHAHA!**

THERE ARE MANY FORMS OF EVIL AND MANY FORMS OF GOOD IN THE WORLD. AT SOME POINT, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO BECOMES LOST IN A NEBULOUS CLOUD OF IDEOLOGIES. ON THIS NIGHT, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO PIERCE THAT CLOUD--VILLAIN WILL CLAW AT VILLAIN... CRUSADER WILL CLUTCH AT CRUSADER. ON THIS NIGHT, THE UNKNOWN WILL MERGE WITH THE MACABRE. ON THIS NIGHT--

the  
**NIGHT**  
of the  
**AVENGER!**

MICHAEL USLAN and *ER*  
RACONTEURS

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A MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE FOR THE SHADOW--AND WITH MECHANICAL PRECISION, HIS VAST NETWORK OF LOYAL AGENTS DARTS INTO ACTION ON THE DEADLY STREETS OF CHINATOWN...

THE SHADOW! GET THIS TO--

--THE (UHG?) (AHHRG.)... **BAM BAM**

NOW! HERE HE COMES!

**SMASH!**

TH-THE SHADOW! (UGH?) QUICK!

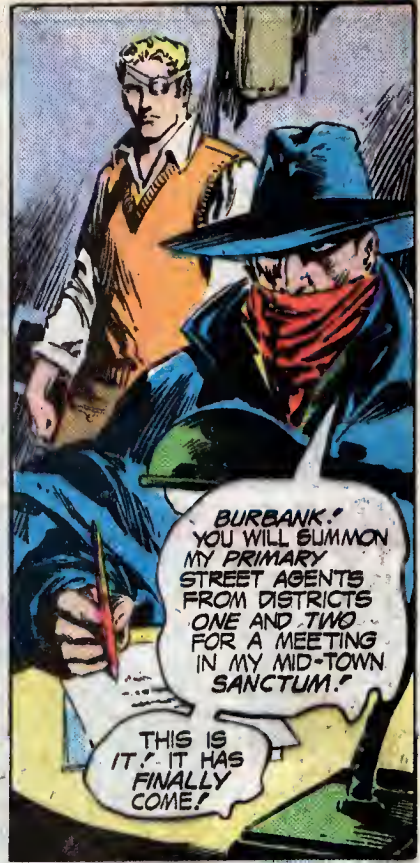
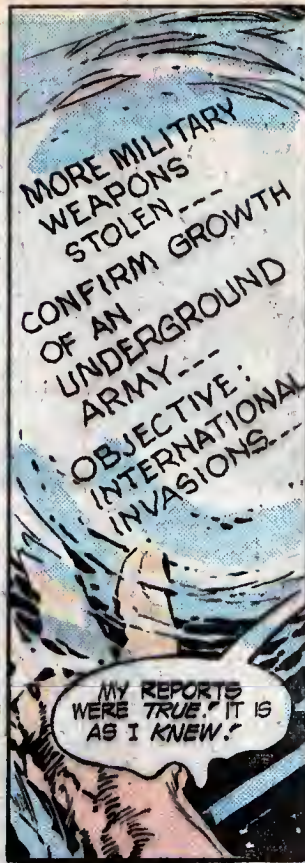
AND SECONDS LATER, IN A PLACE THAT MEN SAY DOESN'T EXIST...

THE MESSAGE!

IT'S BLANK!

**HAHAHA!**







THE SHADOW'S AGENTS ARE DRIVEN INTO VIOLENT ACTION LESS BY THE SUDDEN STORMING OF THEIR SECRET HEADQUARTERS THAN BY THE KNOWLEDGE THAT ONE OF THEIR OWN MUST HAVE BETRAYED THEM...

**KRASH! RA-RA-RA! BLAM! BLAM! BOOM! BUDDARY!**

**HAHAHAHA!**

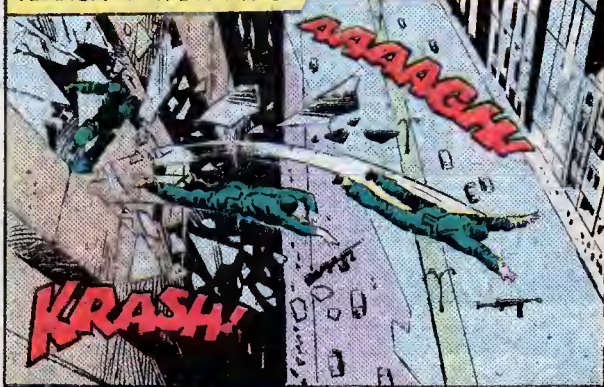
FROM OUT OF THE BLACKNESS LEAPS THE SHADOW...

THOSE EYES! THAT SOUND! IT-- IT'S A--

IT CAN'T BE! NOOOO!

--AND THE SHADOW'S AGENTS REALIZE THAT THE INTRUDERS ARE SEEING FAR BEYOND WHAT THEIR OWN EYES RECORD.

BLINDLY, THE ENEMY SEEKS RELEASE FROM THE TERROR IN THEIR MINDS--



WE CAPTURED THIS BIG FISH, SHADOW! HE SEEMED TO BE LEADING THIS BLITZ!

REMOVE HIS HOOD AT ONCE!

GAZE INTO MY GIRASOL! WHO ARE YOU? WHO SENT YOU?

I...AM... ALGERNON HEATHCOTE SMITH--SMITTY! I WAS...SENT BY... THE AVENGER!



# WHAT TO SINK YOUR TEETH INTO WHEN YOU'RE HUNGRY AND YOU'RE NOT A WEREWOLF.

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SUDDENLY-- THE ICE-EYED MAN HEARS A WEAPON BEING COCKED... WHIRLS... ACTS--!







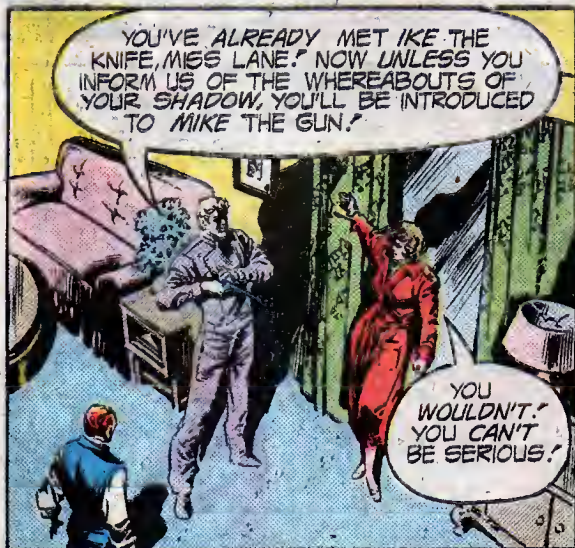
ALL RIGHT, MAC--LET'S SEE WHO OUR WOULD-BE ASSASSIN IS!



WHO ARE YOU? WHO SENT YOU?

MY NAME...IS... MARGO LANE!

...AND I WORK FOR...THE SHADOW!

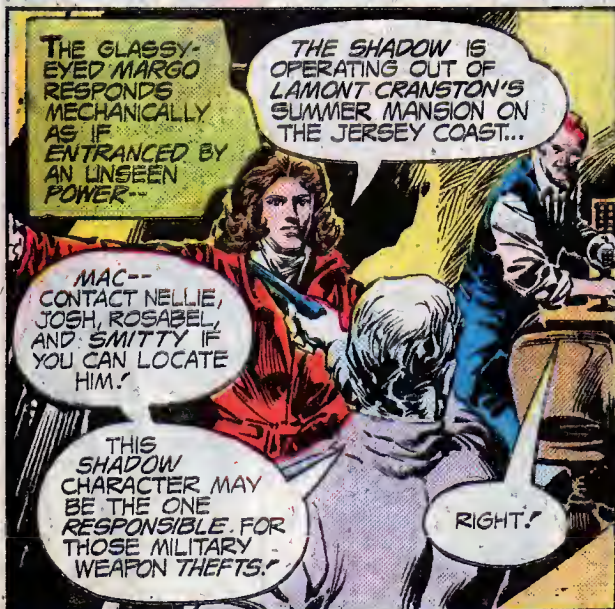


YOU'VE ALREADY MET MIKE THE KNIFE, MISS LANE! NOW UNLESS YOU INFORM US OF THE WHEREABOUTS OF YOUR SHADOW, YOU'LL BE INTRODUCED TO MIKE THE GUN!

YOU WOULDN'T! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!



'MISS LANE-- I AM ALWAYS SERIOUS.'



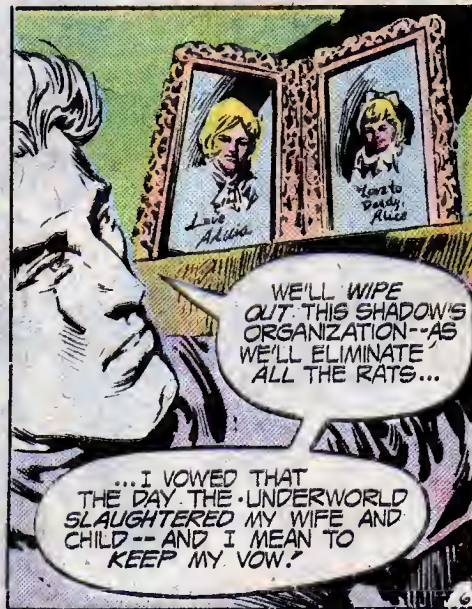
THE GLASSY-EYED MARGO RESPONDS MECHANICALLY AS IF ENTRANCED BY AN UNSEEN POWER--

THE SHADOW IS OPERATING OUT OF LAMONT CRANSTON'S SUMMER MANSION ON THE JERSEY COAST...

MAC-- CONTACT NELLIE, JOSH, ROSABEL, AND SMITTY IF YOU CAN LOCATE HIM!

THIS SHADOW CHARACTER MAY BE THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THOSE MILITARY WEAPON THEFTS!

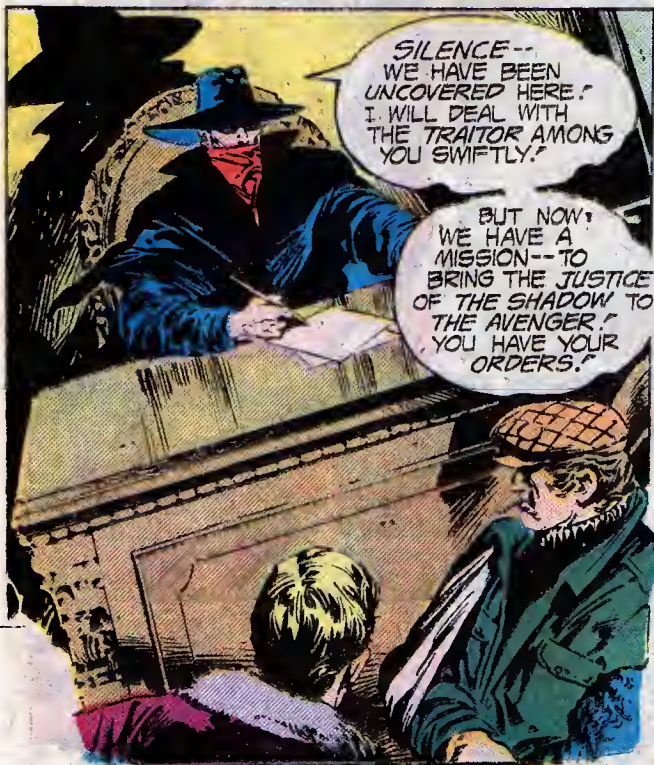
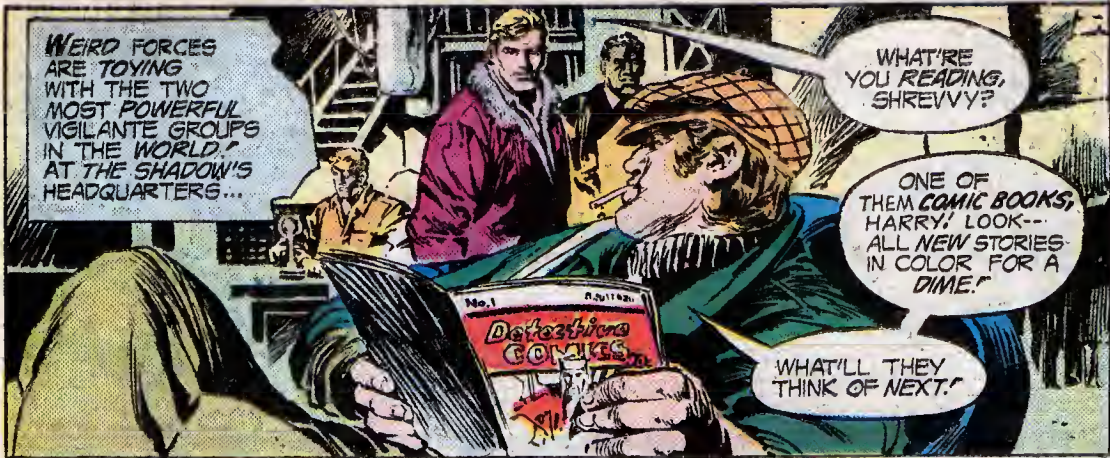
RIGHT!



WE'LL WIPE OUT THIS SHADOWS ORGANIZATION--AS WE'LL ELIMINATE ALL THE RATS...

...I VOWED THAT THE DAY THE UNDERWORLD SLAUGHTERED MY WIFE AND CHILD-- AND I MEAN TO KEEP MY VOW!



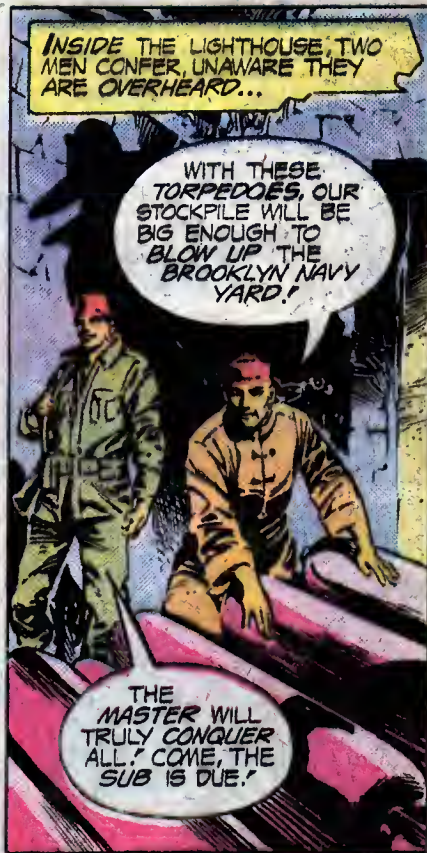




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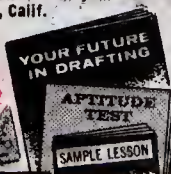
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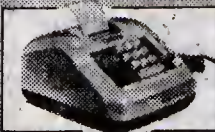
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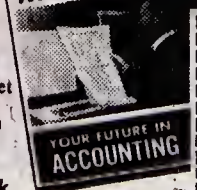
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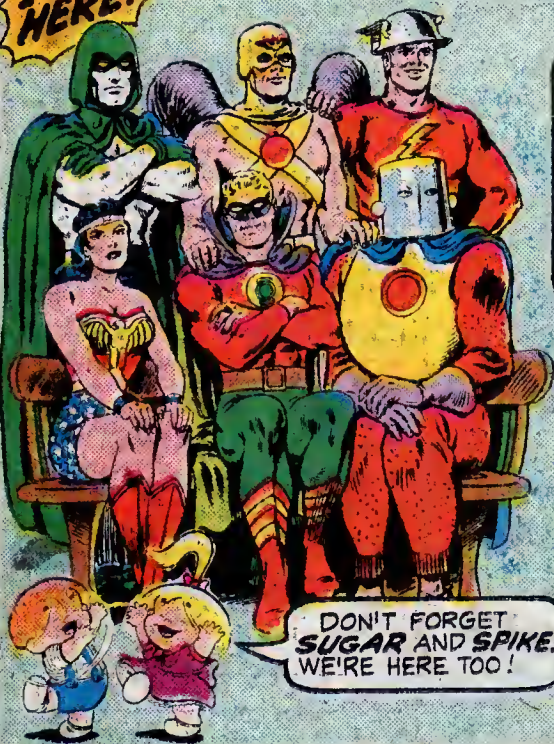


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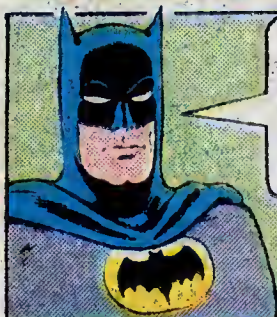
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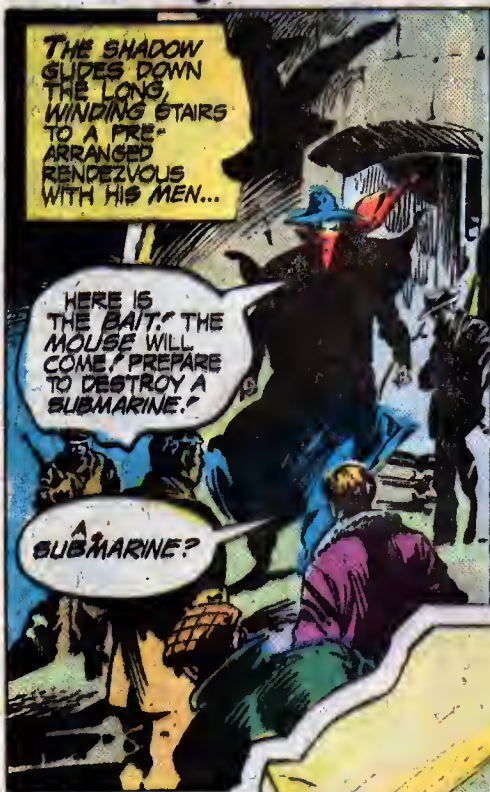
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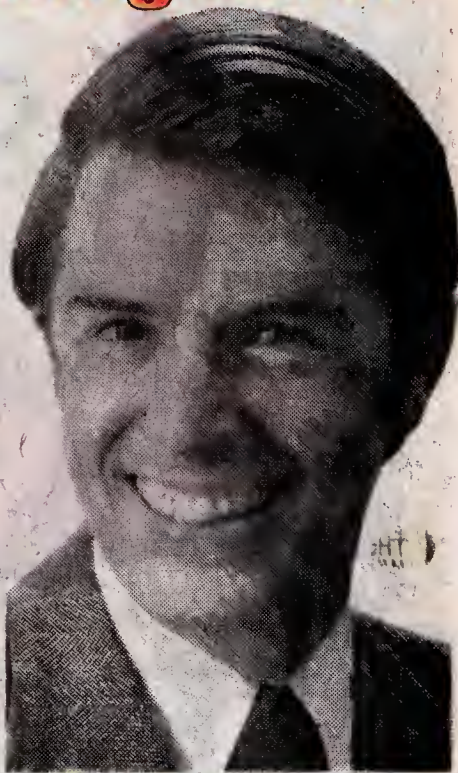
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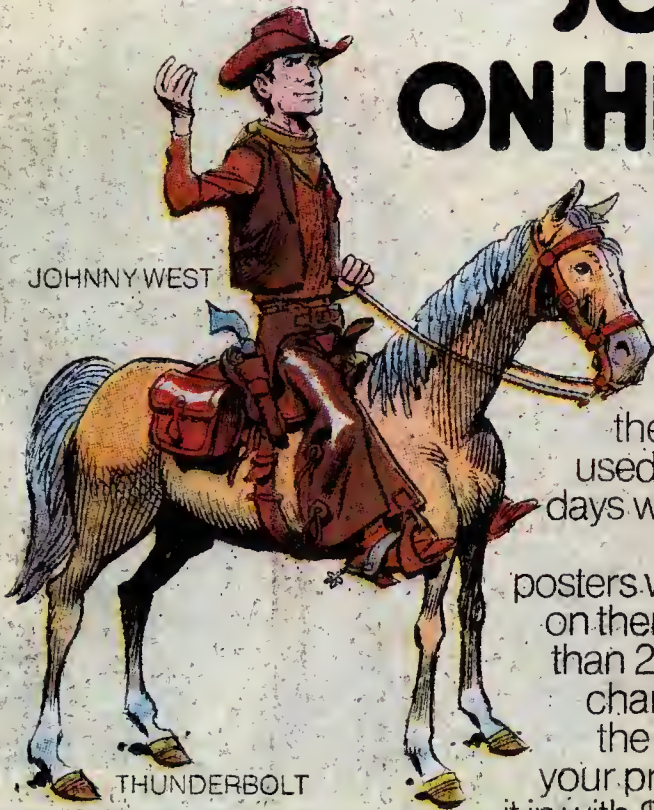
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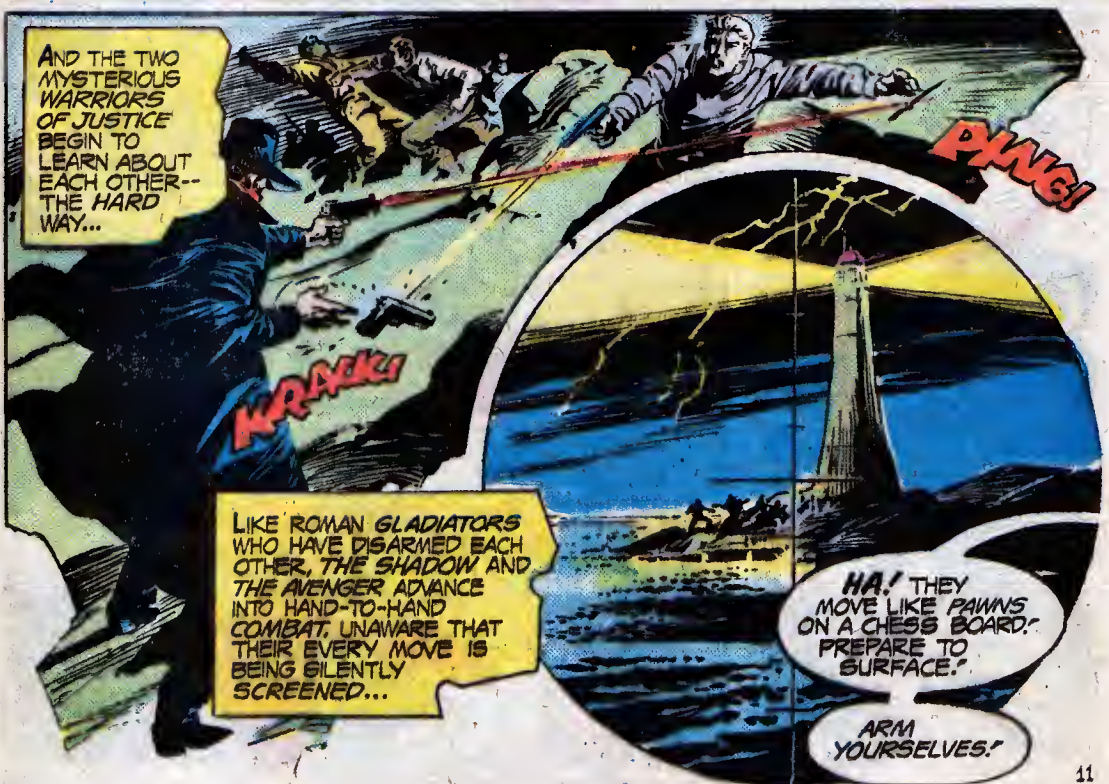
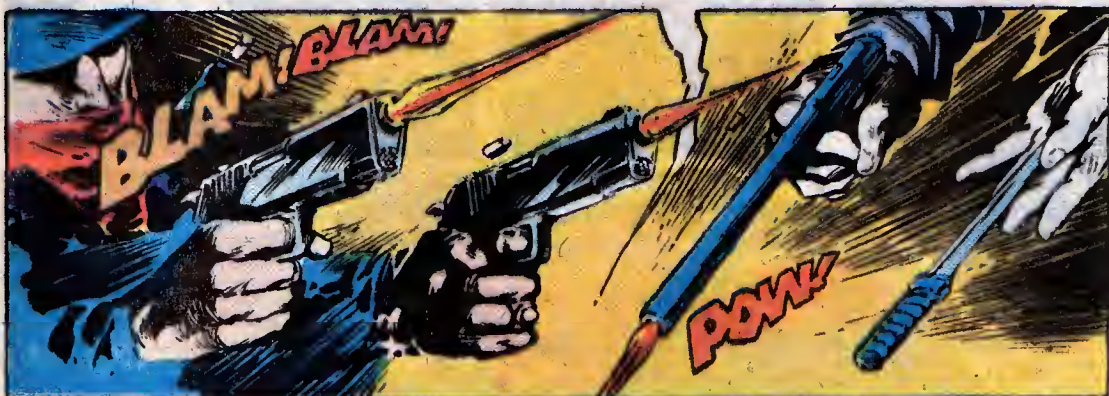
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BUT EVEN PAWNS  
CAN SOMETIMES DO  
THE UNEXPECTED...

"YOUR  
FACE."  
IT--

"STOP! ALL  
OF YOU! WE HAVE  
BEEN DECEIVED."

"YOUR... FACE."  
MY REPORTS TELL ME  
OF A CRIME-FIGHTER  
NAMED RICHARD BENSON  
WITH A FACE THAT IS  
MALLEABLE LIKE  
CLAY."

"I AM  
BENSON!  
AND  
YOU--?"

"I AM... THE  
SHADOW." I  
DESTROY  
CRIME."

"YOU NOW CALL  
YOURSELF 'THE' AVENGER?  
IS THAT NOT A BIT  
VAIN?"

"PERHAPS... IF I  
THOUGHT MYSELF HOLY  
ENOUGH TO SIMPLY  
DISPOSE OF EVIL RATHER  
THAN LET JUSTICE  
DICTATE THE COURSE!"

AN ETERNAL  
SECOND OF  
SILENT TENSION  
MOUNTS BETWEEN  
THE TWO FORCES  
OF GOOD, THEN IT  
IS SUDDENLY  
BROKEN BY  
A LOUD  
COMMAND...

"HARRY! BRING  
MARGO HERE! JERICHO!  
BRING FORWARD THE  
AVENGER'S AIDE! I  
WILL FIND OUT WHY THEY  
ATTEMPTED MURDER BY  
PIERCING THE DEPTHS  
OF THEIR MINDS!"

"NO  
TRICKS,  
MISTER!"

"I HAVE MY  
METHODS." I DO  
NOT ASK FOR YOUR  
APPROVAL, BUT I  
DEMAND YOUR  
RESPECT."



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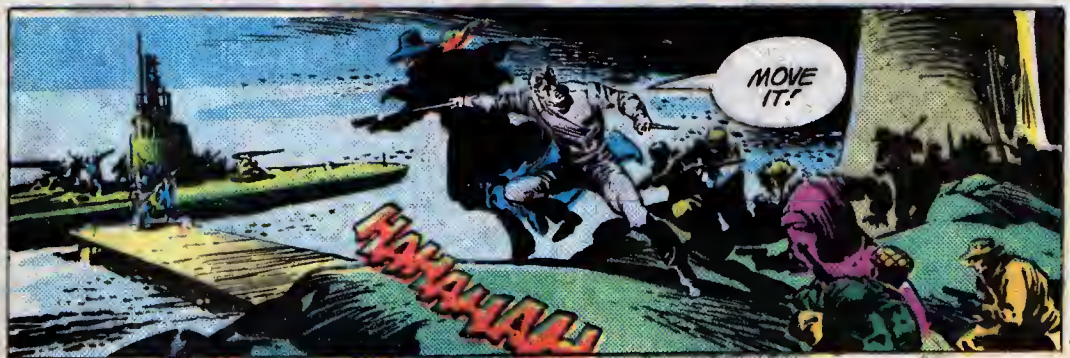
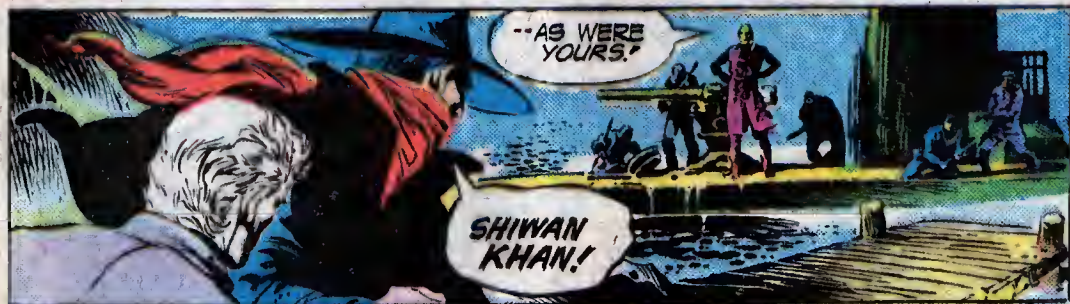
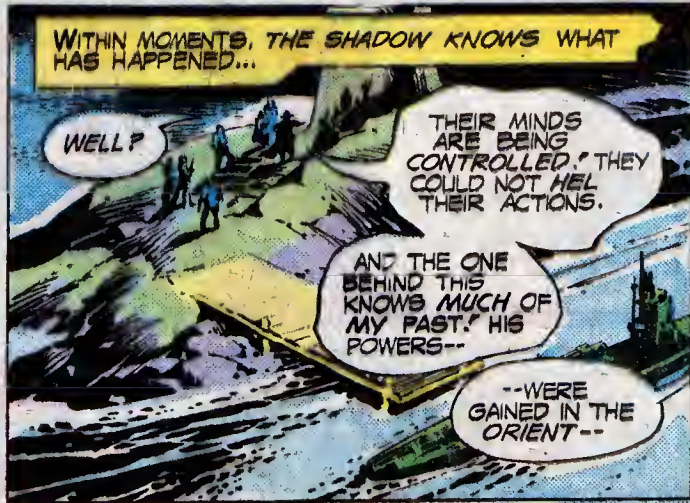
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DRAGON  
SLAYER!



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ON SALE  
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AS THE WOUNDED JOSH FALLS, RICHARD BENSON DOES WHAT HE DOES BEST---AVENGES!



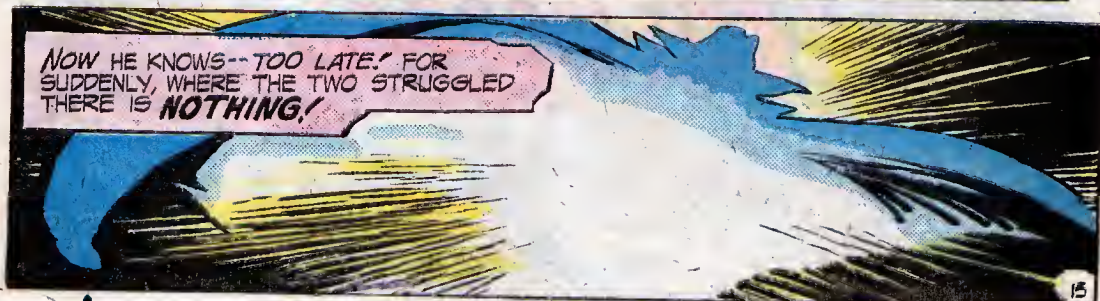
IGNORING A HAIL OF BULLETS, THE NIGHT-CREATURE CHALLENGES THE SUB-MARINE...



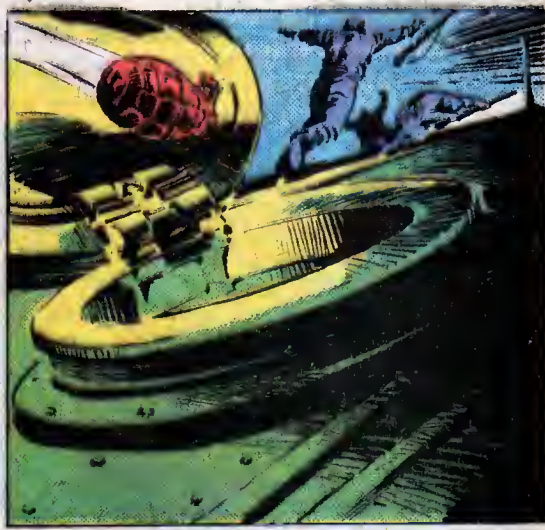
THE WEED OF CRIME BEARS BITTER FRUIT!

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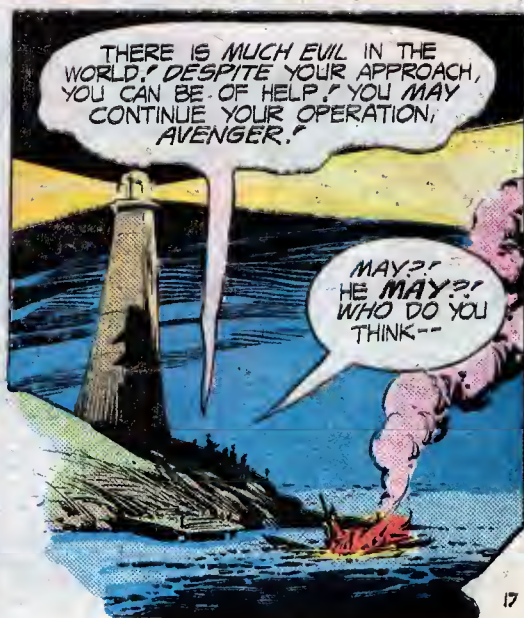
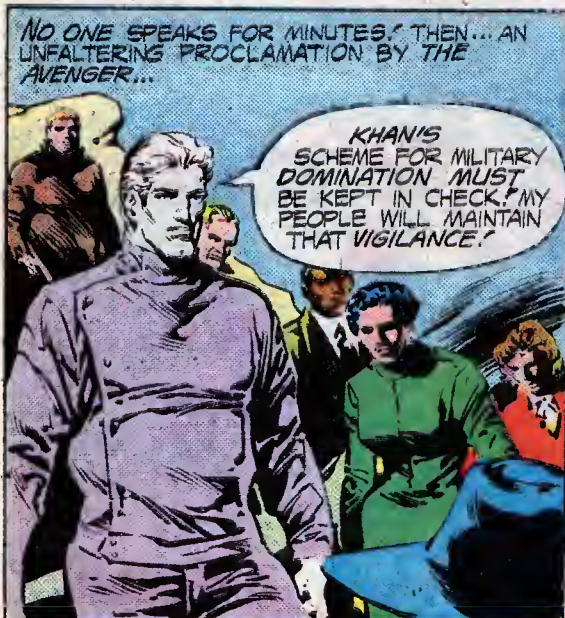
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# THE *Shadow* KNOWS

Z-271



Up front, I've got to thank trusty assistant Allan Asherman and good buddy Tony Tollin for filling this space while I was away vacationing and, when I returned, buried in the details of launching three new titles: *Beowulf*, *Justice Inc.*, and *Kung Fu Fighter*. (Yes, folks, an unabashed plug.)

A lot has happened—most notably, the hiring of a new artist. Herewith, I go on record: I think E.R. Cruz is the best yet. His version of the Shadow seems to me pretty close to the definitive one. Your opinion? Now, to the mails . . .

Dear Denny and Allan:

"Night of the Falling Death" did justify the enthusiastic comments I'd heard about it. Michael Usian's debut as a writer was very successful and was, to be honest, far more interesting and tightly plotted than most of Denny O'Neil's own Shadow scripts. It wasn't hard to guess the identities of the Ninja or the Mummy, but the "Murdock" business caught me completely by surprise. Very good work.

Richard Morrissey, Framingham, Ma.

Gentlemen:

Having just purchased Shadow #9, "Night of the Falling Death," I must admit to extreme disappointment and dissatisfaction in the efforts of Michael Usian to supplant Denny O'Neil as a storyteller and in Usian's almost total lack of understanding of the character and story he is supposed to be presenting.

Rich Durham, Florham Park, N.J.

*Taken together, the above two letters need no comment. Maybe just a tear or two . . .*

Dear Sirs:

The following poem is a collage of different experiences on my part: Doc Savage paperbacks from the flea market, finding an old copy of *The Spirit* in the basement among piles of newspaper, listening to *The Shadow* on the old time radio station, my father's account of when he saw *Dracula* at the midnight showing of the cinema. But a huge part of it is the DC *Shadow*, which engendered the thought about morality. I hope it gives you a fraction of the joy that your magazine has given me.

In the shadowy-spirit days of adolescence  
The hit-men skulked in pretty corners.  
The only thing a hero needed  
Was a pair of pistols and a haunting laugh.  
Causes were as plentiful as gun-runners,  
And bootleggers were always good for an issue  
brawl or so.

The crunching-gravel alleyways of the old  
neighborhood

Held heroes, villains by the score  
(Where did Evil Brain meet the Man of Bronze)  
And I did my wildest deeds in the Saturday  
matinee.

I guess that things were different then.  
Now, you can't tell the heroes  
From the villains without a tabloid,  
And the only shadow falls  
Where strict choices of black and white  
Used to be.  
(for my father, 2/11/74.)

Ms. Bernadette Lynn Bosky,  
Greencastle, Ind.

*I'm sorry we don't have space to print the whole of your letter, Bernadette, but I did want to get that very nice poem in.*

Dear Denny,

I was looking over *The Shadow* and I noticed that the beginning was quite similar to the beginning of a Shadow radio show. I heard it a few times on that Jack Benny-narrated Golden Era of radio album. I wonder if Mike stole the idea from some poor radio scripter of decades past.

Robert Greenberger, Jericho, N.Y.

*'Fraid Mike would probably plead guilty, Bob.*

Dear Denny,

This is terrible! "Night of Neptune's Death / of the Ninja / of the Beast / of the Mummy? of the Falling Death!

The Shadow has really bad nights! Honest, can't you brilliant people think of better titles?

Jim DeLorenzo, Trenton, N.J.

*Not the first such complaint we've heard, Jim. Comments from other Shadowphiles?*

Dear Sirs:

Recently on the letters page I've noticed that there has been considerable talk of revealing the Shadow's origin. Although I am as curious as everyone else, I feel you should not do this. Such an action would lessen the aura of mystery about the Shadow and the magazine's quality would diminish.

Kerry Kirspeel, Shreveport, La.

*So the Great Origin Controversy continues . . . Slightly more than half of you who have been concerned enough to write us feel, as does Kerry, that we should leave the Dark Avenger's origin . . . dark. A couple of months ago I had the extreme pleasure of spending an afternoon with the great Walter Gibson, the near genius who wrote The Shadow's earliest adventures and, among other questions, I asked him about an origin story. Well, it does exist, in one of Walter's Shadow novels, but I don't think we can possibly do it justice in our 18 page format. Three possibilities: First, we can present it as a continued story, in two issues. Or, second, we can wait until we have more pages to play with. Or we can forget the whole matter. What say you?*

Till next time . . . You know what bears bitter fruit, and you know who knows it.



# 204

P.C.

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